

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 PM-07 AID-20

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

IO-14 DRC-01 /139 W

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R 231045Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8442

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSNAVEUR

DOD WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NICOSIA 709

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CY, EG, US, UK

SUBJECT: EOKA RAID; NIMBUS STAR

REF: NICOSIA 705

SUMMARY: EOKA GANG ATTACKS MAKARIOS' SUPPORTERS IN LARNACA VILLAGE, PREEMPTING NIMBUS STAR COVERAGE. PIO STRESSES STATIONING US FORCES TEMPORARY; ALLUDES TO EGYPTIAN CONCURRENCE. END SUMMARY

1. APRIL 22 EOKA RAID ON ANGLISSIDES VILLAGE (LARNACA), RESULT OF WHICH SEVEN MAKARIOS' SUPPORTERS HOSPITALIZED, DROVE NIMBUS STAR OFF FRONT PAGES LOCAL PRESS. RAID WAS IN RETALIATION FOR UNREPORTED EASTER SUNDAY SHOOTING. BETWEEN 30-50 ARMED MASKED MEN ENTERED VILLAGE SHORTLY

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AFTER DARK, WITH LONG LIST MAKARIOS' SUPPORTERS, MOST OF WHOM METHODICALLY BEATEN WITH TIRE CHAINS AND CLUBS. NEW

BISHOP OF KITIUM DENOUNCED ATTACK; SAID IF GOVT UNABLE PROTECT PEOPLE HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON FLOCK DEFEND ITSELF "BY ALL MEANS". MAVERICK LEFTIST LYSSARIDES VISITED VILLAGE LATER; ECHOED BISHOP'S THREAT.

2. COMMENT: MOST STRIKING ASPECT OF INCIDENT IS EOKA-B'S CONTINUED ABILITY MOBILIZE GROUP THIS SIZE. ANGLISSIDES LOCATED ON MAIN LARNACA/LIMASSOL ROAD, BUT THERE NO RPT NO REPORT ANY POLICE ACTIVITY DURING RAID. THIS FIRST SIGNIFICANT EOKA ACTION SINCE GRIVAS' DEATH. INCIDENT LIKELY PROVOKE RENEWED GOVT EFFORTS CONTROL ENOSIST FORCES. END COMMENT

3. PROBABLY AS RESULT INCIDENT, THERE LITTLE EDITORIAL PLAY NIMBUS STAR. GOVT PIO BACKGROUND PRESS TO EFFECT GOVT ALLOWED STATIONING US TROOPS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST OF PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING (ACCORDING PRO-MAKARIOS "PHILELEFTHEROS" AND INDEPENDENT "MAKHI") SPECIFICALLY EGYPT. PIO MADE CLEAR STATIONING TEMPORARY AND WILL NOT RPT NOT HESITATE REVERSE DECISION ON STATIONING IF IT LEARNS US TROOPS BEING USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE. INTERESTINGLY, COMMUNIST "HARAVGHI" CONTINUES MAINTAIN UNACCOMSTOMED DISTANCE FROM ARCHBISHOP, ESCHEWING OWN EDITORIAL BUT REPRINTING PRAVDA CRITICISM OF US USE SBA'S ("DANGEROUS PRECEDENT"). COMMENT: NORMALLY, "HARAVGHI" FULLY SUPPORTS ARCHBISHOP ON ALL ISSUES, DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN. END COMMENT.
GRANT

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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